



## **STATE OF ALABAMA BOARD OF ARCHITECTS SPRING 2000 NEWSLETTER**

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### **UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:**

#### **April 18, 2000**

District Nomination  
Meetings--Huntsville  
and Birmingham

#### **May 23, 2000**

District Nomination  
Meeting and Board  
Meeting—Mobile

#### **August 22, 2000**

Board Meeting-  
Montgomery

### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

Richard E. Barrow  
Edward L. Faddis  
Everett Hatcher, III  
William W. Herrin, Jr.  
Renis O. Jones, Jr.  
Frank E. Litchfield, III

### **STAFF:**

Cindy Gainey, Admin.  
Janet Wells, Asst.

### **LAST CHANCE FOR MANY TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR NCARB CERTIFICATION**

If you were an architect prior to July 1, 1984, you may qualify for NCARB certification without an NAAB accredited degree; but you need to apply before July 1, 2000.

Beginning July 1, 2000, architects will be required to hold a professional degree from a program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) or the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB), or have a CACB-certified professional degree from a Canadian university in order to meet NCARB's education requirement for certification.

If you do not have a recognized professional degree from an NAAB-accredited school, NCARB currently accepts one of four alternatives.

After June 30, 2000, two alternatives to the professional degree requirement will expire. While the Broadly Experienced Architect alternative will continue to be available, it is a complicated and expensive route to certification and NCARB highly recommends that eligible architects apply for certification before July 1, 2000. Council record applications that are already in process on July 1, 2000 and that meet all certification requirements in effect prior to that date will be approved for the council certificate.

For further information about education requirements for architects registered in the U. S., request a copy of the NCARB Education Standard or direct questions to the Council's Operations and Services Department at (202) 879-0528.

## **WHY HAVE A BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF ARCHITECTS?**

A few weeks ago, I received a letter from a disgruntled architect who, after suggesting that the Board and the profession in the state were corrupt, asked "Why do we have a Board for Registration of Architects anyway?" After recovering from some of my anger, I decided to answer the question in this column.

The State Board for Registration of Architects exists for one reason and one reason only—to protect the citizens of the state of Alabama. All of the Board's other duties and activities proceed directly from that charge.

Regulation of a profession is a restrictive activity. It is established to prevent unqualified persons from engaging in practices that might place the general public in jeopardy. You may believe that you were allowed to practice architecture when you became registered, but in fact the pool of those who were prohibited from practicing architecture just became smaller.

The Board does not exist to protect architects' economic interest. It does not exist to protect your market turf. When this Board moves against architects or others, it is to protect the interest of the public.

The Board is not a legislative body. It cannot enact laws—only the legislature can do that. The Board is not an enforcement agency, other than against its registrants. Only the judicial system can enforce the laws of the State of Alabama.

So who is the Board going to move against when violations occur? Against architects. If we uncover unauthorized practice by those who are not registrants, we must seek remedy from the judicial system through the Attorney General, local District Attorneys, and the Courts.

So instead of protecting architects, the Board may tell architects they can't do business this way or that way. The Board may suspend the registration of architects who are found not to be acting in accordance with the law in protecting the public interest. The Board may discipline architects when their practice does not meet the appropriate standard of care in protecting the public.

So who looks out for the interest of architects if it is not the Board? The primary answer is the American Institute of Architects. The AIA is a professional association whose aim is to improve status of architects and to increase their service to the public. In addition, the AIA is concerned with the business of architecture and seeks to provide its members with useful information which may improve architects' profits and increase their market share.

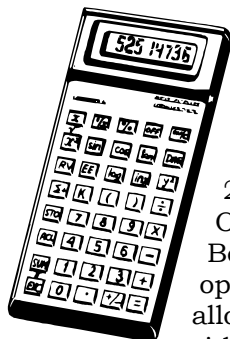
The second answer is architects themselves. If architects can improve the value of their service to their clients, their services will be more in demand. If clients perceive architects as being of less value to the building process, they will seek or allow others to provide them with those services. The marketplace can establish a condition where restrictive regulation can occur, but restrictive regulation cannot artificially maintain a market position.

As an architect, you are the beneficiary of the State's desire to protect its citizens, but you should never consider that benefit a natural right. If the State believes that others can protect the public as well or better than architects, then either the exclusive right to practice architecture will be withdrawn from architects or the right will be extended to others.

The Board exists to protect the public, not to protect architects. If the only reason for the existence of the Board was to protect architects, it would probably cease to exist.

Richard E. Barrow, FAIA  
Chairman

## RENEWAL FEES TO INCREASE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2000



At a recent meeting, the Board members voted to increase registration renewal fees by \$50 effective with the FY 2000-2001 renewal cycle. Over the past 15 years, the Board has enjoyed an operating surplus that has allowed the board to operate without a substantial raise in fees. With that surplus now depleted and with the increased costs of doing business in today's economy, we find it necessary to increase the fees for renewal to \$150 yearly.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION AUDIT

In accordance with Board regulations, an audit of continuing education submittals was conducted in February. Fifty-one registrants received certified letters requesting documentation.

The Board reviewed 46 submittals at their meeting on March 1, 2000. Of those, 40 were deemed in accordance with the Board's regulations. Five were notified of the need for further documentation or credit disallowance. Five architects did not respond to the audit notice and were immediately suspended from practicing architecture in Alabama. Three architects immediately complied with the Board's request for documentation, and we learned of the death of one respondent. The other architect has yet to respond and remains suspended. One architect was suspended, and a disciplinary hearing has been scheduled.

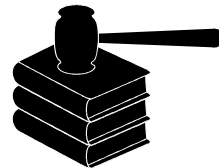


## QUOTABLE QUOTE:

"Budget: a mathematical confirmation of your suspicions."

--A. A. Latimer

## ENFORCEMENT REPORT



**WILLIAM V. WOODSMALL (#3655)**, Auburn, Alabama, appeared before the Board on April 27, 1999, and pled guilty to a charge of violating state or federal laws in the conduct of his practice. Sanctions included a three-year suspension of his registration, three months of which is active suspension; Board-supervised probation for the remaining 33 months; a written synopsis of The Registration Act; presentation of an ethics seminar for senior architecture students at Auburn University and Tuskegee University; and publication of these actions. Woodsmall did not comply with terms of the order and is now serving the entire three-year suspension of his registration.

**ROY WEAVER, JR. (#4022)**, Birmingham, Alabama, failed to comply with the terms of the Board's order dated 12/9/98 (see Spring 1999 newsletter) and is now serving the entire three-year suspension of his registration.

**GEORGE HUNTER, JR. (#1251)**, Birmingham, Alabama, failed to comply with the terms of the Board's order dated May 13, 1998, and must remit a \$10,000 fine for failure to submit quarterly probation reports in a timely manner.

## *Congratulations are now in order*

The following individuals recently passed the Architects Registration Exam:

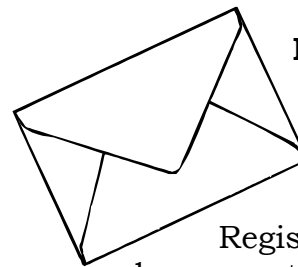
Leah H. Alexander, Northport, AL  
Edward C. Alonso, Birmingham, AL  
Brian A. Barrett, Birmingham, AL  
Laura G. Donald, Birmingham, AL  
Gary L. Hartman, Avon, CO  
Todd Hollingsworth, Birmingham  
Chung K. Hsu, Birmingham, AL  
F. Michael Jordan, Portales, NM  
Lam Phan McNulty, Birmingham  
J. David Northcutt, Auburn, AL  
Kevin E. Silvey, Gadsden, AL  
Chris Stoyles, Montgomery, AL  
Lee E. Winnige, Birmingham, AL

**State of Alabama  
Board for Registration of Architects  
770 Washington Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36130-4450  
www.alarchbd.state.al.us  
(334) 242-4179**

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### **INTERNS—CHECK THIS OUT!**

- ✓ A new tool for interns, the "IDP Training Unit Workbook," is now available at the NCARB web site. The workbook (in Excel worksheet format) converts hours into training units and cumulatively tracks time daily, weekly, and multi-weekly. This provides an at-a-glance way for interns and their supervisors to assess strong and weak training areas. The workbook may be downloaded directly from the NCARB web site: **www.ncarb.org/idp/idpworkbook.html**.
- ✓ The Alabama Intern Development Program now has its own web site: **http://idp-al.netfirms.com**  
Special thanks to Jim Seay, Jr., Alabama's IDP Coordinator.



### **MAKE A "NOTE" OF THIS . . . .**

The annual  
Roster of  
Registered Architects  
has recently been printed.

As in years past, a copy will not be mailed to all registrants but is available upon request. If you desire a copy, please call JANET at the Board office at (334) 242-4179 or send an e-mail request to her at this address:  
**jwells@dsmd.dsmd.state.al.us.**

Don't forget to notify the Board office of address changes.

Watch for renewal notices—they are mailed in mid-August. **ALL** registrations expire 9/30/00.

